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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TU X

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/621,583

Applicant(s)

FUJII, KOHEI

Examiner

Tu X. Nguyen

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/15/03, 10/27/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-8, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ditzik (US Patent 5,983,073).

Regarding claim 1, Ditzik discloses a relay apparatus comprising:

external connection interface means (see 62, 27, 54, 46, fig.7) to which a plurality of communication means are connected and which individually interfaces with the communication means; and

common control means (see 38, fig.7) which is commonly provided for the plurality of communication means and controls to perform communication by using one of the plurality of communication means connected to said external connection interface means in accordance with operation by a user (see 9, fig.7).

Regarding claim 2, Ditzik discloses said common control means comprises call control means for acquiring, from a communication terminal connected to said external connection interface means (see col.2 lines 56-64), unique communication information including communication partner information and log information used for communication through the communication terminal, a database storing communication

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information, and database management means for classifying communication information according to communication partners and collectively managing the information (see col.3 lines 10-14).

Regarding claim 3, Ditzik discloses said common control means comprises window display means for displaying various kinds of information about communication, and search means for retrieving communication information about a communication partner from said database, and said call control means displays the retrieval result obtained by said search means on said window display means (see col.3 lines 10-14).

Regarding claim 4, Ditzik discloses said database stores termination propriety condition information set for each communication partner, and said common control means further comprises response determination means for (see col.3 lines 10-14), if during speech communication through one of the plurality of communication means, an incoming call is received through another communication means, determining the propriety of responding to the incoming call on the basis of termination propriety condition information about a communication partner, from said database, with which the speech communication is being performed ("if" is optional, no need for consideration).

Regarding claim 5, Ditzik discloses said external connection interface means comprises at least one of terminal interface means (see 62, fig.7) for interfacing with a terminal and line interface means for a line (see 53, fig.7).

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Regarding claim 6, Ditzik discloses relay means for relaying/connecting said terminal interface means and said line interface means to said control means (see col.2 lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 7, Ditzik discloses the communication means comprises at least one of a portable terminal and a communication line, and performs various kinds of communication (see col.2 lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 8, Ditzik discloses the communication means performs at least one of speech communication, electronic mail communication, and image communication (see col.2 lines 50-55, col.6 lines 45-59).

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed Tu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7883. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30AM-2:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban, can be reached at (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TN
February 17, 2006


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